Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

February 5, 2019

The Honorable Donald J. Trump President of the United States 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Trump:

We write today to offer our strong support for your efforts to secure our southern border. However, we would encourage you to not use funds previously allocated for military construction to accomplish this critical endeavor.

As you have so rightly stated before, we are currently facing a Security and humanitarian crisis on our southern border that requires our immediate attention. You are right – we have a responsibility to the American people to keep them safe. We agree that additional measures are needed, including a border wall where experts have determined it most effective. It is our hope that congressional Democrats will come to the negotiating table in good faith and agree to adequately fund these measures. Given their reluctance to hold meaningful and productive discussions to this point, we understand you may consider alternatives to find the necessary funding. Again, we urge you not to take these funds away from the military construction budget.

Across the country, our military installations are facing aging infrastructure challenges which undermine the readiness and lethality of our Armed Forces. Already, you have proven yourself to be the champion of our military and have put us back on the path to success. The investments we have already made are critical to the long-term stability of the military. This past year, we provided \$10.3 billion to address our vast military construction needs, ranging from supporting families with quality schools and housing to providing next-generation training capabilities.

The issues we face need to be addressed by consistent and predictable funding so that we can provide for our service members and their families. Diverting funding from ongoing or planned projects would be incredibly harmful and put us back on a path our military cannot afford to travel again after so much progress has been made under your watch as Commander in Chief.

Together we have made incredible strides in restoring the devastating cuts to our military from the Obama Administration. We know you will remain steadfast in your support of our Armed Forces, and we hope you will not heed suggestions to fund border security projects with military construction funds. Thank you for your attention to this matter and we look forward to continuing to stand with you on this effort.

Sincerely,

Richard Hudson

Member of Congress

Michael R. Turner

Member of Congress

Doug Lamborn

Member of Congress

Tom Cole

Member of Congress

Chris Collins

Member of Congress